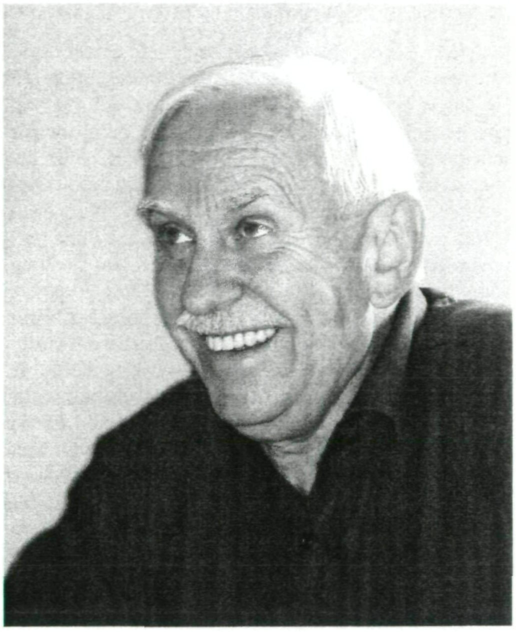
BRAUERIA (Lunz am See, Austria) 31: 7-8

## Wolfgang Joost (1937-2004)

Unexpectedly and far too early Wolfgang Joost ("Jo" to his friends) died at the age of 66 on 2 April 2004 after returning home from a long journey through Paraguay and Bolivia.



He was born on 6 December 1937 in Cobbelsdorf in Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany. After school he started an apprenticeship in shipbuilding at Roßlau/Elbe. He worked three years in this job before he decided to follow his inclination for Biology and Natural History. From 1957 –1960 he was a student at the Fachschule für Heimatmuseen (= specialist college for local museums) in Weißenfels/Saale, and in this way he became a professional museum man. In 1961 he took a position at the Museum der Natur in Gotha, Thuringia, where he worked successfully for the next 17 years. During this period he became qualified as a zoological preparator, and completed an external study of biology at the Humboldt University Berlin, from where he received his diploma in 1973. In 1978 he was offered the position of assistant and curator in the Taxonomy/Ecology section at the University of Leipzig. He held this position until 1995. After early retirement he returned to Gotha, his home town.

W. Joost was not a trichopterist in the narrow sense. He was an aquatic and faunistic entomologist and had the rare ability of passing on his passion for insects to other people. I was one of those. I was a lousy bug-collecting school-boy when I met him for the first time in summer 1969. The Natural History Museum in Gotha was always an attractive place for me. My home town Eisenach was 30 km away, without a similar museum and without entomologists. In the summer holidays of 1969 I spent some days as a kind of volunteer in the Museum in Gotha, where I made my first personal contact with the entomological world in the person of W. Joost. At that time J. Illies and his team at the Limnologische Flußstation in Schlitz started to use emergence traps for the limnological investigation of mountain streams. Schlitz is some 80 km away (as the crow flies) from Gotha, but, with the Iron Curtain in between this short distance became infinite and personal contacts impossible. W. Joost and his colleague Wolfgang Zimmermann were deeply impressed by the emergence method and also decided to operate emergence traps in the Thuringian Forest to investigate the streams and their biota. This was the beginning of a successful research program, carried out on the streams Emse and Spitter in the 1970s, and later on the Vesser in the 1980s. Emergence traps usually yield the whole spectrum of aquatic insects, and it is a constant problem to find specialists to identify the many groups. Since there was no worker on Trichoptera, W. Joost suggested that I do something "real" and specialise on this group. He was rather successful with his proposal. Indeed, as from that time I started to hunt and to breed caddisflies. Gradually, I lost interest in the other bugs and instead concentrated my entomological activities on Trichoptera. In the following years I examined not only the emergence material but all the Trichoptera specimens collected by members of the Museum in Gotha.

The analysis of emergence-trap catches obtained on the stream Spitter was the subject of his doctoral thesis, which was a joint dissertation together with Wolfgang Zimmermann. They received the Dr. rer. nat. from the University of Leipzig in 1984.

W. Joost was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable collector and good observer. He knew all the aquatic groups and collected them all, amassing an enormous amount of material. He was an excellent field biologist who interacted and collaborated with many entomologists. During GDR times he was head of the "aquatic entomologists" working group (the "Aquatiker" in his diktion) and organised a number of meetings and field trips. Taxonomically he concentrated mainly on Plecoptera and several Diptera families such as Ptychopteridae, Thaumaleidae, Empididae etc. He described new species in all these groups. So far as stoneflies are concerned he was in close contact with J. Illies, then the leading authority in Germany and beyond. His influence was probably responsible for the fact that W. Joost did not remain a provincial entomologist. The biogeographic ideas of J. Illies coincided with his intrinsic desire for travelling. Field trips were focussed on learning and documenting the Plecoptera and Diptera fauna of particular areas. He often travelled and collected in Bulgaria, Russia and the Caucasian Republics Georgia, Azerbaidjan and Armenia. After the reunification of Germany he made field trips almost every year to South America, Asia or Africa.

Jo is survived by his wife Monika, two daughters and his son. He will be greatly missed by his family, and by many friends and former colleagues. His collection consists almost entirely of alcohol material. It is transferred and deposited preliminarily in the Museum der Natur, Gotha.

Wolfram Mey

### List of publications of W. Joost with data on Trichoptera

JOOST, W. (1973): Faunistisch-ökologische Studien am Rhithon der Emse, einem Bergbach des Thüringer Waldes, unter besonderer Berücksichtigung einiger wichtiger Insektengruppen (Plecoptera, Coleoptera und Trichoptera) des Benthos. – Diplomarbeit, Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt Universität Berlin, 1-112.

JOOST, W. (1976): *Synagapetus ater* KLAP. – eine interessante Köcherfliege neu für die Fauna der DDR. —Abh. Ber. Mus. Nat. Gotha 6: 49-51

MEY, W.; BRAASCH, D.; JOOST, W.; JUNG, R. & KLIMA, F.(1979): Die bisher vom Gebiet der DDR bekannten Köcherfliegen (Trichoptera). - Ent. Nachr. **23**: 81-89.

MEY, W. & JOOST, W. (1982):. Eine neue Polycentropodide aus dem Kaukasus (Trichoptera). - Ent. Nachr. Ber. **26**: 273-274.

JOOST, W. & MEY, W. (1983): Drei für die DDR neue Köcherfliegen aus Thüringen (Insecta, Trichoptera). – Faun. Abh. Mus. Tierk. Dresden 10: 155-157.

JOOST, W. (1984): Erstnachweis von *Aphelocheirus aestivalis* (F.) im Bezirk Halle (Heteroptera, Aphelocheiridae). – Ent. Nachr. Ber. 28: 80-82.

JOOST, W. (1984): Fossile Reste aquatischer Insekten aus dem Travertin von Weimar. – Quartärpaläontologie 5: 321-324.

JOOST, W., KLAUSNITZER, B. & ZIMMERMANN, W. (1985): Die merolimnische Insektenfauna eines Thüringer-Wald-Baches im Ergebnis dreijähriger Emergenzuntersuchungen. Teil 1: Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, Megaloptera, Coleoptera und Trichoptera. – Faun. Abh. Mus. Tierk. Dresden 13: 1-39.

MEY, W. & JOOST, W. (1986): Wenig bekannte Köcherfliegen in der DDR, IV (Insecta, Trichoptera). - Ent. Nachr. Ber. 30: 101-104.

JOOST, W., KLAUSNITZER, B. & ZIMMERMANN, W. (1986): Die Sekundärproduktion eines Thüringer Wald-Baches im Ergebnis dreijähriger Emergenz-Untersuchungen. – Limnologica (Berlin) 17: 29-52.

MEY,W. & JOOST, W. (1989): Beschreibung der Larve und der Puppe von *Synagapetus dubitans* MCLACHLAN aus Thüringen (Insecta, Trichoptera). - Rudolstädter nat. hist.Schr. **2**: 57-62.

MEY, W. & JOOST, W. (1990): *Rhyacopsyche mutisi* n.sp. - A new microcaddisfly with an unusual larva from Colombia (Trichoptera, Hydroptilidae). - Studies on Neotrop. Fauna and Envir. **25**: 133-138.

BELLSTEDT, R. & JOOST, W. (1990): Zum Vorkommen von *Anomalopterygella chauviniana* Stein, 1874 (Trichoptera, Limnephilidae) in Thüringen. – Abh. Ber. Mus. Nat. Gotha 16: 91-94.

BELLSTEDT, R. & JOOST, W. (1994): Zum Kenntnisstand der Köcherfliegen-Fauna (Insecta, Trichoptera) des Thüringer Waldes und Thüringer Beckens. – Lauterbornia (Dinkelscherben) 16: 7-18.

JOOST, W. (1996): Zur Kenntnis der Plecoptera und Trichoptera-Fauna der Emse, einem Bergbach im nordwestlichen Thüringer Wald. – Abh. Ber. Mus. Nat. Gotha 19: 74-87.

BRETTFELD, R., BELLSTEDT, R., JOOST, W. & ZIMMERMANN, W. (1996): Zur Limnofauna des Unterlaufs der Ulster. - Abh. Ber. Mus. Nat. Gotha 19: 3-23.

**Trichoptera species dedicated to W. Joost**

*Rhyacophila joosti* MEY, 1979 (Bulgaria)
Ent. Nachr. **23** : 124-125.

*Ernodes wolfgangjoosti* MEY, 2004 (Armenia)
Ent. Nachr. Ber. **48** (in press).

More information on W. Joost may be found in Ent.Nachr.Ber. (Dresden) 48:143-150, 2004.

## SIEEC Award for Sára Nógrádi & Ákos Uherkovich

SIEEC means Societas Internationalis Entomofaunistica Europae Centralis. It is a Society which operated in Central Europe since 1964 to promote entomofaunistics. Symposia are held every two years alternating in the countries represented in the Council. Now are 14 countries represented. The SIEEC Award is given since 1973 to persons who have done exceptional work on entomofaunistics in Central Europe.

At the occasion of the 18th SIEEC Symposium in Linz, Austria, the Award was given to our friends Sára Nógrádi and Ákos Uherkovich from Pécs, Hungary, for their work on faunistics of Hungarian caddisflies, in particular for their recently published book **Magyarország Tegzesei (The Caddisflies of Hungary)**.

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